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JOHN J. OSKOREP, ESQ. LLC ONE MAGNIFICENT MILE CENTER 980 N. MICHIGAN AVE. SUITE 1400 CHICAGO, IL 60611				VUONG, QUOC HIEN B
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/788,715	GUNARATNAM ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Quochien B. Vuong	2618	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on RCE filed 09/19/2008.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-34,36-38 and 40-53 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-34,36-38 and 40-53 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>09/19/08</u> .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 09/19/2008 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-53 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation

under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-34, 36-38, and 40-53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admitted Prior Art in view of Bridges et al. (US 7,096,015).

Regarding claim 1, Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter AAPA) discloses in the specification (page 2, line 5 – page 3, line 6) a network selection method for a mobile station, comprising: identifying a plurality of communication networks in a coverage area within which the mobile station is operating (page 2, lines 5-7); selecting and operating with a non-home communication network (page 2, lines 10-14); in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, performing the following acts of: if the non-home communication network is identified as being available: selecting and operating with the non-home communication network; and otherwise, if the non-home communication network is unavailable and a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available: selecting and operating with the home communication network; otherwise selecting and operating with an alternate communication network in accordance with an automatic or manual network selection method (page 2, line 26-32). The difference between the AAPA and

the claimed invention is that the AAPA in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, the mobile station select the non-home communication network as a first priority instead of the home communication network as in the claim. However, Bridges et al. disclose in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, the mobile station performs selecting and operating with the home communication network as a first priority if a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available (column 12, lines 25-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to adapt the teaching of Bridges et al. for selecting the home communication network as a first priority to the network selection method of the AAPA in order to save cost to the user.

Regarding claim 2, the AAPA discloses wherein the non-home communication network comprises a Registered Public Land Mobile Network (RPLMN) (page 2, lines 24-26).

Regarding claim 3, the AAPA discloses wherein the home communication network comprises a Home Public Land Mobile Network (HPLMN) of the mobile station (page 2, lines 8-10).

Regarding claim 4, the AAPA discloses wherein the act of selecting and operating with the alternate communication network is performed with use of a prioritized network list of alternate non-home communication networks (page 2, lines 10-14).

Regarding claim 5, the AAPA discloses wherein the act of identifying comprises the further act of receiving a Mobile Country Code (MCC) and Mobile Network Code (MNC) pair for each communication network available in the coverage area (page 2, lines 7-8).

Regarding claim 6, the AAPA discloses wherein the home and non-home communication networks are operative in accordance with Global Systems for Mobile Communications (GSM) (page 1, lines 27-28).

Regarding claim 7, the AAPA (page 2, line 5 – page 3, line 6) discloses a mobile station, comprising: a wireless transceiver; an antenna coupled to the wireless transceiver; an interface adapted to receive a subscriber identity module having a home network identification and a prioritized network list of alternate non-home communication networks stored therein; one or more processors coupled to the wireless transceiver and the interface; the one or more processors being configured to select a communication network with which to operate communicate by: identifying a plurality of communication networks in a coverage area within which the mobile station is operating (page 2, lines 5-7); selecting and operating with a non-home communication network (page 2, lines 10-14); in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-

on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, performing the following acts of: if the non-home communication network is identified as being available: selecting and operating with the non-home communication network; and otherwise, if the non-home communication network is unavailable and a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available: selecting and operating with the home communication network; otherwise selecting and operating with an alternate communication network in accordance with an automatic or manual network selection method (page 2, line 26-32). The difference between the AAPA and the claimed invention is that the AAPA in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, the mobile station select the non-home communication network as a first priority instead of the home communication network as in the claim. However, Bridges et al. disclose in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, the mobile station performs selecting and operating with the home communication network as a first priority if a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available (column 12, lines 25-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to adapt the teaching of Bridges et al. for

selecting the home communication network as a first priority to the mobile station of the AAPA in order to save cost to the user.

Regarding claim 8, the AAPA discloses wherein the non-home communication network comprises a Registered Public Land Mobile Network (RPLMN) (page 2, lines 24-26).

Regarding claim 9, the AAPA discloses wherein the home communication network comprises a Home Public Land Mobile Network (HPLMN) of the mobile station (page 2, lines 8-10).

Regarding claim 10, the AAPA discloses wherein the act of selecting and operating with the alternate communication network is performed with use of a prioritized network list of alternate non-home communication networks (page 2, lines 10-14).

Regarding claim 11, the AAPA discloses wherein the act of identifying comprises the further act of receiving a Mobile Country Code (MCC) and Mobile Network Code (MNC) pair for each communication network available in the coverage area (page 2, lines 7-8).

Regarding claim 12, the AAPA discloses wherein the home and non-home communication networks are operative in accordance with Global Systems for Mobile Communications (GSM) (page 1, lines 27-28).

Regarding claim 13, the AAPA (page 2, line 5 – page 3, line 6) discloses a communication system, comprising: a first communication network; a second communication network; one or more mobile stations which are operable with the first

and the second communication networks; the one or more mobile stations having the first communication network as a non-home communication network and the second communication network designated as a home communication network; each mobile station being operative to select a communication network with which to communicate by: identifying a plurality of communication networks in a coverage area within which the mobile station is operating (page 2, lines 5-7); selecting and operating with a non-home communication network (page 2, lines 10-14); in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, performing the following acts of: if the non-home communication network is identified as being available: selecting and operating with the non-home communication network; and otherwise, if the non-home communication network is unavailable and a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available: selecting and operating with the home communication network; otherwise selecting and operating with an alternate communication network in accordance with an automatic or manual network selection method (page 2, line 26-32).

The difference between the AAPA and the claimed invention is that the AAPA in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, the mobile station select the non-home communication network as a first priority instead of the home communication network as in the claim. However, Bridges et al. disclose in

response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, the mobile station performs selecting and operating with the home communication network as a first priority if a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available (column 12, lines 25-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to adapt the teaching of Bridges et al. for selecting the home communication network as a first priority to the network selection method of the AAPA in order to save cost to the user.

Regarding claim 14, the AAPA discloses wherein the non-home communication network comprises a Registered Public Land Mobile Network (RPLMN) (page 2, lines 24-26).

Regarding claim 15, the AAPA discloses wherein the home communication network comprises a Home Public Land Mobile Network (HPLMN) of the mobile station (page 2, lines 8-10).

Regarding claim 16, the AAPA discloses wherein the act of selecting and operating with the alternate communication network is performed with use of a prioritized network list of alternate non-home communication networks (page 2, lines 10-14).

Regarding claim 17, the AAPA discloses wherein the home and non-home communication networks are operative in accordance with Global Systems for Mobile Communications (GSM) (page 1, lines 27-28).

Regarding claim 18, the AAPA (page 2, line 5 – page 3, line 6) discloses a network selection method for a mobile station, comprising: receiving a user input for manually selecting a non-home communication network for communications with the mobile station in a manual network selection mode of the mobile station; selecting and operating with the manually-selected non-home communication network in response to the user input (page 2, lines 18-22); identifying a plurality of communication networks in a coverage area within which the mobile station is operating (page 2, lines 5-7); selecting and operating with a non-home communication network (page 2, lines 10-14); in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the manually-selected non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state while in the manual network selection mode, performing the following acts of: if the non-home communication network is identified as being available: selecting and operating with the non-home communication network; and otherwise, if the non-home communication network is unavailable and a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available: selecting and operating with the home communication network; otherwise selecting and operating with an alternate communication network in accordance with an automatic or manual network selection method (page 2, line 26-32). The difference between the AAPA and the claimed invention is that the AAPA in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, the mobile station select the non-home communication

network as a first priority instead of the home communication network as in the claim. However, Bridges et al. disclose in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, the mobile station performs selecting and operating with the home communication network as a first priority if a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available (column 12, lines 25-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to adapt the teaching of Bridges et al. for selecting the home communication network as a first priority to the network selection method of the AAPA in order to save cost to the user.

Regarding claim 19, the AAPA discloses wherein the home communication network comprises a Home Public Land Mobile Network (HPLMN) of the mobile station (page 2, lines 8-10).

Regarding claim 20, the AAPA discloses wherein the non-home communication network comprises a Registered Public Land Mobile Network (RPLMN) (page 2, lines 24-26).

Regarding claim 21, the AAPA discloses wherein the home and non-home communication networks are operative in accordance with Global Systems for Mobile Communications (GSM) (page 1, lines 27-28).

Regarding claim 22, the AAPA discloses in response to a visual input prompt for the manual network selection procedure, receiving a user input for manually selecting

the available communication network; and in response to the user input, registering with the available communication network (page 2, lines 18-22).

Regarding claim 23, the AAPA (page 2, line 5 – page 3, line 6) discloses a mobile station, comprising: a user interface; a wireless transceiver; an antenna coupled to the wireless transceiver; one or more processors coupled to the wireless transceiver; the one or more processors being configured to provide for the selection of a communication network by: receiving a user input from the user interface for manually selecting a non-home communication network for communications with the mobile station in a manual network selection mode of the mobile station; selecting and operating with the manually-selected non-home communication network in response to the user input (page 2, line 18-22); in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the manually-selected non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state while in the manual network selection mode, performing the following acts of: if the non-home communication network is identified as being available: selecting and operating with the non-home communication network; and otherwise, if the non-home communication network is unavailable and a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available: selecting and operating with the home communication network; otherwise selecting and operating with an alternate communication network in accordance with an automatic or manual network selection method (page 2, line 26-32). The difference between the AAPA and the claimed invention is that the AAPA in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-

home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, the mobile station select the non-home communication network as a first priority instead of the home communication network as in the claim. However, Bridges et al. disclose in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, the mobile station performs selecting and operating with the home communication network as a first priority if a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available (column 12, lines 25-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to adapt the teaching of Bridges et al. for selecting the home communication network as a first priority to the mobile station of the AAPA in order to save cost to the user.

Regarding claim 24, the AAPA discloses wherein the home communication network comprises a Home Public Land Mobile Network (HPLMN) of the mobile station (page 2, lines 8-10).

Regarding claim 25, the AAPA discloses wherein the non-home communication network comprises a Registered Public Land Mobile Network (RPLMN) (page 2, lines 24-26).

Regarding claim 26, the AAPA discloses wherein the home and non-home communication networks are operative in accordance with Global Systems for Mobile Communications (GSM) (page 1, lines 27-28).

Regarding claim 27, the AAPA discloses wherein the one or more processors are further configured for: receiving a user input for manually selecting the available communication network in response to a visual input prompt for the manual network selection procedure; and registering with the available communication network in response to the user input (page 2, lines 18-22).

Regarding claim 28, the AAPA (page 2, line 5—page 3, line 6) discloses a communication system, comprising: a first communication network; a second communication network; one or more mobile stations which are operable with the first and the second communication networks; the one or more mobile stations having the first communication network designated as a non-home communication network and the second communication network designated as a home communication network; the one or more mobile stations being operative to provide for the selection of a communication network by: receiving a user input from a user interface of the mobile station for manually selecting the first communication network for operation in a manual network selection mode of the mobile station; selecting and operating with the first communication network in response to the user input (page 2, lines 12-22); in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the manually-selected non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state while in the manual network selection mode, performing the following acts of: if the non-home communication network is identified as being available: selecting and operating with the non-home communication network; and otherwise, if the non-home communication network is unavailable and a home communication

network of the mobile station is identified as being available: selecting and operating with the home communication network; otherwise selecting and operating with an alternate communication network in accordance with an automatic or manual network selection method (page 2, line 26-32). The difference between the AAPA and the claimed invention is that the AAPA in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, the mobile station select the non-home communication network as a first priority instead of the home communication network as in the claim. However, Bridges et al. disclose in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, the mobile station performs selecting and operating with the home communication network as a first priority if a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available (column 12, lines 25-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to adapt the teaching of Bridges et al. for selecting the home communication network as a first priority to the network selection method of the AAPA in order to save cost to the user.

Regarding claim 29, the AAPA discloses wherein the home communication network comprises a Home Public Land Mobile Network (HPLMN) of the one or more mobile station (page 2, lines 8-10).

Regarding claim 30, the AAPA discloses wherein the non-home communication network comprises a Registered Public Land Mobile Network (RPLMN) (page 2, lines 24-26).

Regarding claim 31, the AAPA discloses wherein the home and non-home communication networks are operative in accordance with Global Systems for Mobile Communications (GSM) (page 1, lines 27-28).

Regarding claim 32, the AAPA discloses wherein the one or more mobile stations are further operative for: receiving a user input for manually selecting the available communication network in response to a visual input prompt for the manual network selection; and registering with the available communication network in response to the user input (page 2, lines 12-22).

Regarding claim 33, the AAPA discloses wherein the performing of the acts are caused in response to regaining the signal coverage from the out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network (page 2, lines 24-26).

Regarding claim 34, Bridges et al. disclose wherein the performing of the acts are caused in response to being powered-on from the power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network (column 12, lines 25-36).

Regarding claim 36, the AAPA discloses the method of claim 1, which is performed as part of an automatic network selection procedure of the mobile station (page 2, lines 12-18).

Regarding claim 37, the AAPA discloses wherein the performing of the acts are caused in response to regaining the signal coverage from the out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network (page 2, lines 24-26).

Regarding claim 38, Bridges et al. disclose wherein the performing of the acts are caused in response to being powered-on from the power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network (column 12, lines 25-36).

Regarding claim 40, the AAPA discloses the method of claim 1, which is performed as part of an automatic network selection procedure of the mobile station (page 2, lines 12-18).

Regarding claim 41, the AAPA discloses wherein the performing of the acts are caused in response to regaining the signal coverage from the out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network (page 2, lines 24-26).

Regarding claim 42, Bridges et al. disclose wherein the performing of the acts are caused in response to being powered-on from the power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network (column 12, lines 25-36).

Regarding claim 43, the AAPA discloses the method of claim 1, which is performed as part of an automatic network selection procedure of the mobile station (page 2, lines 12-18).

Regarding claim 44, the AAPA discloses the method of claim 18 wherein, in causing of the acts to be performed in response to regaining the signal coverage or being powered on, the acts of selecting and operating with the non-home and the home

communication networks are performed by the mobile station in the manual network selection mode without user intervention (page 2, lines 16-22)

Regarding claim 45, the AAPA discloses the method of claim 18, further comprising: prior to selecting and operating with the home communication network, causing a visual input prompt to be displayed for manual network selection (page 2, lines 16-22).

Regarding claim 46, the AAPA discloses the method of claim 18, wherein the act of selecting and operating with the home communication network is inherently performed after an expiration of a predetermined time period in order to get communication service.

Regarding claim 47, the AAPA discloses the method of claim 28, further comprising: prior to selecting and operating with the home communication network: causing a visual input prompt to be displayed for manual network selection of the home communication network; and wherein the act of selecting and operating with the home communication network is performed in response to receiving the manual network selection of the home communication network via the visual input prompt (page 2, lines 16-22).

Regarding claim 48, the AAPA discloses the method of claim 18, further comprising: prior to selecting and operating with the home communication network: causing a visual input prompt to be displayed for manual network selection (page 2, lines 16-22); and wherein the act of selecting and operating with the home

communication network is inherently performed after an expiration of a predetermined time period in order to get communication service.

Regarding claim 49, the AAPA discloses the mobile station of claim 23 wherein, in causing the acts to be performed in response to regaining the signal coverage or being Powered-on, the one or more processors are further configured to select and operate with the non-home and the home communication networks in the manual network selection mode without user intervention (page 2, lines 16-22).

Regarding claim 50, the AAPA (page 2, line 5- page 3, line 6) discloses a network selection method for use by a mobile station comprising the acts of: identifying, in a coverage area within which the mobile station is operating, one or more Public Land Mobile Networks (PLMNs) which are operative in accordance with Global Systems for Mobile Communications (GSM) (page 1, lines 26-29); selecting and operating with a non-home Registered PLMN (RPLMN) (page 2, lines 10-14); in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home RPLMN communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state while in the non-home RPLMN, performing the following acts of: if the non-home communication network is identified as being available: selecting and operating with the non-home communication network; and otherwise, if the non-home communication network is unavailable and a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available: selecting and operating with the home communication network; otherwise selecting and operating with an alternate communication network in accordance with an automatic or manual network selection

method (page 2, line 26-32). The difference between the AAPA and the claimed invention is that the AAPA in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, the mobile station select the non-home communication network as a first priority instead of the home communication network as in the claim. However, Bridges et al. disclose in response to regaining signal coverage from an out-of-coverage condition with the non-home communication network, or in response to being powered-on from a power-off state entered while operating with the non-home communication network, the mobile station performs selecting and operating with the home communication network as a first priority if a home communication network of the mobile station is identified as being available (column 12, lines 25-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to adapt the teaching of Bridges et al. for selecting the home communication network as a first priority to the network selection method of the AAPA in order to save cost to the user.

Regarding claims 51-53, the AAPA discloses wherein the prioritized network list is a User-Controlled Public Land Mobile Network list or an Operator-Controlled Public Land Mobile Network list (page 2, lines 12-16).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Barber et al. (US 5,442,806) disclose preferred carrier selection method for selecting any available cellular carrier frequency when neither home nor preferred cellular carrier frequencies are available.

Seppanen et al. (US 5,903,832) disclose mobile terminal having enhanced system selection capability.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quochien B. Vuong whose telephone number is (571) 272-7902. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30-18:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nay Maung can be reached on (571) 272-7882. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Quochien B Vuong/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2618